



**Integrative Cancer Research Workspace
Microarray Repositories Special Interest Group
Mission Statement
DRAFT**

The opportunities /needs we address:

The mission of the Microarray Repositories SIG is to identify and prioritize the needs of the larger cancer research community with respect to the capture, storage, and utilization of microarray data and related types of genetic data. Specifically, we will address the need for:

- A database for the storage and retrieval of microarray data and related data types that can be incorporated into the larger scheme of federated databases that store clinically relevant data and other relevant data types.
- Software that facilitates the capture of important microarray experimental information and automatically loads it into a database.
- Software that facilitates the querying of microarray databases and the retrieval of data.
- Consumers and producers of microarray data to readily exchange data

What we are doing/will do to address these needs:

- Develop requirements that will drive subsequent development of microarray repositories.
- Evaluate existing repositories against the requirements defined by this Special Interest Group
- Develop guidelines for the adherence to MIAME standards and for supporting the capture of this information
- Work with the Data Analysis and Statistical Tools Special Interest Group and the Vocabularies and Common Data Elements Workspace to define standards for microarray data exchange.

The principles/beliefs that guide our work:

- The association of microarray data with clinical sample details is key to supporting translational studies
- Integration with other experimental data and annotation information will increase the utility of microarray data
- Adherence to MIAME standards for the capture of microarray data is critical to the subsequent interpretation experiments. There is a need to eliminate barriers to the capture of this information